

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed November 9, 2004 requires restriction to one of the following alleged inventions:

Group I: claims 1-18 for an apparatus; or Group II: claims 19-20 for a method.

If election is made to Group I, the apparatus, the Office Action further requires restriction to one of the following alleged species for the apparatus:

Species I, drawn to figure 1;

Species II, drawn to figure 6;

Species III, drawn to figure 7;

Species IV, drawn to figure 9;

Species V, drawn to figure 14;

Species VI, drawn to figure 18;

Species VII, drawn to figure 20;

Species VIII, drawn to figure 21.

If election is made to Group II, the method, the Office Action further requires restriction to one of the following alleged species for the method:

Species I, drawn to figure 23; or Species II, drawn to figure 24.

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, Applicant traverses the restriction, and submits that Claims 1-17 and 19 are generic to at least figures 1, 6, 7, 9, and 14 (corresponding to Species I through V for the apparatus), and to at least figure 23 (corresponding to Species I for the method) for purposes of examination in the present application. Independent claims 1, 7, and 12 each recite a "geartrain;" and independent claim 17 recites "means for" elements that can correspond to the apparatus and

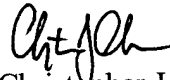
“geartrain” of claims 1, 7, and 12. Independent claim 19 recites an associated method that can be performed by the apparatus. Examples of the claimed geartrain and apparatus are provided in at least figures 1, 6, 7, 9, and 14 corresponding to alleged species I through V. An example of a method associated with the geartrain and apparatus is recited in claim 19, and further illustrated in figure 23.

Accordingly, the other pending claims 18 (relating to an apparatus such as a scooter) and 20 (relating to a method associated with a scooter) are hereby cancelled, without prejudice to pursuing such claims in continuation or divisional applications.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the foregoing is a complete reply to the Office Action mailed November 9, 2004. Applicant respectfully solicits substantive examination of this application. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response, please contact the undersigned attorney at 404-815-6048.

Respectfully submitted,



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